

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 205701  
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY ARA:WPSTEDMAN:MMS:MDK (TEXT FROM WHITE HOUSE)

APPROVED BY S/AB:DHPOPPER

NSC:RPASTOR

WHITE HOUSE STAFF:PWIS

S/S -O:TMARTIN

DESIRED DISTRIBUTION

WHITE HOUSE ADVANCE OFFICE

-----091304 281353Z /40

O 281329Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY PARAMARIBO NIACT IMMEDIATE

INFO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 205701

EXDIS FOR CHIEF OF MISSION

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OTRA, PDIP, PN, PPDC

SUBJECT: SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATIES

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER FROM PRESIDENT CARTER  
TO PRIME MINISTER ARRON INVITING HIM TO BILATERAL MEETING  
IN CONNECTION WITH PANAMA CANAL CEREMONIES TO BE HELD  
IN WASHINGTON SEPTEMBER 7. LETTER SHOULD BE CONVEYED  
TO HIGHEST APPROPRIATE AUTHORITY IMMEDIATELY. IN  
DELIVERING MESSAGE, PLEASE ALSO MAKE FOLLOWING THREE  
POINTS: (1) TACTFULLY SUGGEST THAT DELEGATION BE AS  
SMALL AS POSSIBLE BUT INCLUDE WIFE OF CHIEF OF STATE;  
(2) ADVISE THAT THE CHIEF OF STATE AND HIS WIFE ARE  
INVITED TO ATTEND A STATE DINNER WHICH WILL TAKE  
CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 205701

PLACE IN CONNECTION WITH THE SIGNING CEREMONY,  
SEPTEMBER 7; AND (3) INFORM THAT MRS. CARTER IS  
PLANNING A SEPARATE EVENT FOR WIVES.

2. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST RESPONSE TO LETTER (AND  
WHETHER WIFE WILL ACCOMPANY).

3. FYI: OUR CURRENT COUNT IS THAT 15 CHIEFS OF STATE

SO FAR HAVE AT LEAST TENTATIVELY DECIDED TO COME.

4. TEXT OF LETTER.

BEGIN TEXT: DEAR MR. PRIME MINISTER: I AM PLEASED TO INFORM YOU THAT AFTER 13 YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS, THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE UNITED STATES AND PANAMA HAVE REACHED AGREEMENT ON NEW PANAMA CANAL TREATIES. I BELIEVE THAT THESE TREATIES REPRESENT AN HISTORIC MOMENT IN THE RELATIONS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE AMERICAS, AND I HOPE THAT YOU WILL BE ABLE TO SHARE THAT MOMENT WITH ME AND WITH CHIEF OF GOVERNMENT OMAR TORRIJOS. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A FUTURE IN WHICH THE SAME SPIRIT OF PARTNERSHIP AND OF MUTUAL RESPECT THAT GUIDED US THROUGH THE NEGOTIATIONS WILL GUIDE RELATIONS AMONG THE NATIONS OF THIS HEMISPHERE.

IF YOU ARE ABLE TO VISIT WASHINGTON, I WOULD LOOK FORWARD TO MEETING WITH YOU PERSONALLY TO DISCUSS MAJOR SUBJECTS OF INTEREST TO OUR TWO COUNTRIES. I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR THOUGHTS ON ANY MATTERS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DISCUSS DURING OUR MEETING.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 205701

PLEASE CONVEY MY WARMEST FRIENDSHIP TO THE PEOPLE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SURINAM ON BEHALF OF THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND ACCEPT MY OWN PERSONAL BEST WISHES. SINCERELY, JIMMY CARTER. END TEXT.

5. SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION ON ARRANGEMENTS AND LOGISTICAL QUESTIONS WILL BE PROVIDED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CANALS, REPRESENTATION AT CEREMONIES  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Sent Date:** 28-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE205701  
**Document Source:** CORE  
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**Drafter:** WPSTEDMAN:MMS:MDK (TEXT FROM WHITE HOUSE)  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ORIGIN SS  
**Original Classification:** CONFIDENTIAL  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** EXDIS  
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**SAS ID:** 1456754  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** SIGNING CEREMONY FOR PANAMA CANAL TREATIES  
**TAGS:** OTRA, PDIP, PPDC, PN, NS, US, PQ  
**To:** PARAMARIBO  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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